

Rozgar Yojana during 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) the funds actually released to West Bengal, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Initially, the Central allocation to West Bengal under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) for the year 1990-91 was Rs. 174.30 crores. In view of the overall cut in the Plan size during the year, the Central allocation to West Bengal was reduced to Rs. 165.58 crores. After making deduction amounting to Rs. 7.01 crore on account of over-drawal of foodgrains during 1989-90 by the State authorities, Rs. 158.57 crores were released to the State during 1990-91.

The Central allocation to West Bengal under JRY for the year 1991-92 is Rs. 174.30 crores. Only a few districts of West Bengal have attained the requisite level of expenditure to the available resources to qualify for the release of first instalment of Central funds under JRY so far. An amount of Rs. 23.62 crores has been released to the State for such districts for the current year.

[Translation]

Union Carbide Case

1181. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the agreement reached between the Union Carbide and the Union Government before Supreme Court stands at present;

(b) whether the amount of 370 million dollar deposited by the Union Carbide is with the Supreme Court or with the Union Government; and

(c) whether the interim relief provided by the Union Government is

a part of the amount deposited by the Union Carbide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The settlement ordered by the Supreme Court on 14th and 15th February, 1989 is the subject of review petitions filed by certain Social Action Groups and is supported by the Government of India. The hearings have been completed and judgement has been reserved by the Supreme Court.

(b) The amounts deposited by the Union Carbide Corporation and Union Carbide India Limited are held in the Reserve Bank of India in the name of the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

(c) Interim relief of Rs. 200 per person per month being paid in 36 severely affected wards of Bhopal is not being paid out of the amounts deposited. However, payment of interim relief will be adjusted against the final compensation awarded to the individuals through the judicial process.

[English]

Setting up of a Nuclear Power Plant at Nagarjunasagar

1182. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Nuclear Power Plant at Nagarjunasagar in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly has also passed a Resolution twice unanimously for the location of the Nuclear Power Plant at Nagarjunasagar;

(c) whether the Site Selection Committee had considered Nagarjunasagar as the best site for the establishment of a Nuclear Power Plant; and

(d) if so, the stage at which the proposal stands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no plan at present to set up a nuclear power plant at Nagarjunasagar.

(b) Two resolution were passed by the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on 16-8-1983 and on 13-9-1985 requesting Government of India to locate a nuclear power plant at Nagarjunasagar.

(c) and (d) Nagarjunasagar site was rated second as per the report of the Site Selection Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy, on the Southern Electricity Region, submitted in February, 1984. The priority for setting up of nuclear power plant at any site is decided by taking into consideration the electricity needs and energy resources in the different regions, alternatives available to an area to meet its electricity needs, plan allocations and other policy considerations. The proposal is to be evaluated accordingly and decision taken on the basis of available resources for the nuclear power sector.

Price of Sugar

1183. SHRI M. BAGA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the difference between the price of sugar in open market and the price of sugar under Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the difference and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bridge the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The Government is following a dual pricing policy in respect of sugar with the objective of providing a certain portion of the consumers requirement at a lower price through the Public

Distribution System. The extra requirements, if any, the consumers have to be met by them through purchase of free sale sugar at higher open market prices. No change in the present policy is under consideration.

[Translation]

Quantity of Wheat Purchased in U.P.

1185. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat purchased by various Government agencies in Uttar Pradesh during the present season;

(b) how it compares with that of last year; and

(c) if the quantity purchased during the current season is less than that of the previous year, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) A Statement is attached.

(c) The procurement of wheat under price support operations aims at ensuring Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers and avoid distress sale. All the stocks of prescribed specifications, offered for sale by farmers at MSP, are purchased by FCI/State agencies. But the farmers are free to sell their produce in open market at prices higher than MSP fixed by Government.

The main reasons for less procurement of wheat in U.P. during current rabi marketing season than the quantity procured during the previous season are as follows:—

(i) The open market prices of wheat in U.P. being higher than MSP of Rs. 225 per quintal. The open market prices ranged from Rs. 230 to Rs. 320 per quintal in various mandies of the State.

(ii) Reported with-holding of large quantity of wheat by